

## REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are the claims currently pending in the Application.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to address minor issues cited by the Examiner. These amendments are not believed to raise new issues that would necessitate a new search of the art.

### *Objection to Claim 1 and Rejection of Claim 13*

Claim 1 was objected to and claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

It is respectfully submitted that a person of ordinary skill in the art would have readily understood the claims in their unamended form, and that the grounds for the rejection of claim 13 amounted at most to a ground for an objection. No amendment was required as a matter of law or regulation.

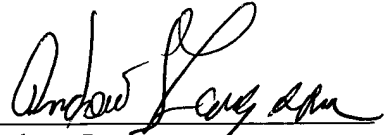
However, in the interest of expediting prosecution of the Application and to conserve Applicant's and the U.S.P.T.O. examining resources, claims 1 and 13 have been amended in a manner consistent with the Examiner's suggestions. Therefore, the objection to claim 1 and the rejection of claim 13 should now be withdrawn.

In view of the amendments made herein and the foregoing discussion, reconsideration of the Application is respectfully requested. In the absence of the Examiner's finding of additional relevant prior art, the present invention, as claimed is allowable, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner allow the Application. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited and believed to be fully warranted.

Filed herewith is a Petition for a two-month extension of time with credit card payment transmittal. The Commissioner is authorized and requested to charge Applicant's attorneys' deposit account No. 02-2105 for any additional extension of time or additional claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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